

February 24, 1976

This is a state portion of the appropriations bill. Some people think that all the money that is raised goes for the operation of state government. That is not true. This bill will illustrate why. You will find, in your book, the fact that this bill contains \$40 million to the General Fund ... or from the General Fund to the Personal Property Tax Relief Fund; \$12.6 million from the General Fund to the Governmental Subdivision Fund; and \$2 million for reimbursement of the personal property taxes that were, as the court indicated, illegally collected on behalf of the vocational technical colleges.

The amendment.... The bill, originally, has \$42 million in for the first fund and does not have the \$2 million in. So the first Committee amendment changes the \$42 million to \$40 million and adds the \$2 million. Is that right, Vince? OK.

I move the adoption of the first Committee amendment that's on the Clerks desk.

CLERK: Now, Mr. President, there's a series of amendments to the Committee amendment. If he's going to separate them.... When you're moving the adoption of amendment number 1 that's just "On page 2, line 4 strike "42" and insert "40"?"

SENATOR MARVEL: Yes, that's the....

CLERK: Now I have a motion, Mr. President, that might apply to that by Senator Frank Lewis. I'm not sure. It doesn't apply to anything specific. He simply says "Strike \$40 million" and insert "\$33 million". Is that where that should go, Senator Lewis? OK.

SENATOR MARVEL: OK then what I will do is to move the adoption of the standing Committee amendment as is shown in the book. It's dated the 13th of February. Then that motion will be pending. Then I will yield to Senator Lewis.

CLERK: Alright now Senator Frank Lewis' motion is to strike "\$40 million" and insert "\$33 million".

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Lewis.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I bring you this amendment as a final recourse to debate and discuss a very important issue on the floor of this Legislature. I want to tell you that I pursued the legitimate channels. I introduced the necessary bills to accomplish the same before the Revenue Committee. They met with a demise yesterday on the vote of five members of that Committee.

I want to make two statements very clear. First of all it is not my intention to attack the exemption of personal property. That's not my desire. This amendment is for a twofold purpose. First of all I think that you ought to understand that we're talking about \$10 million of new money annually, just as we talked about.... I should clarify that with the amendment, \$7 million of new money annually. Just about like we talked about \$7 million of